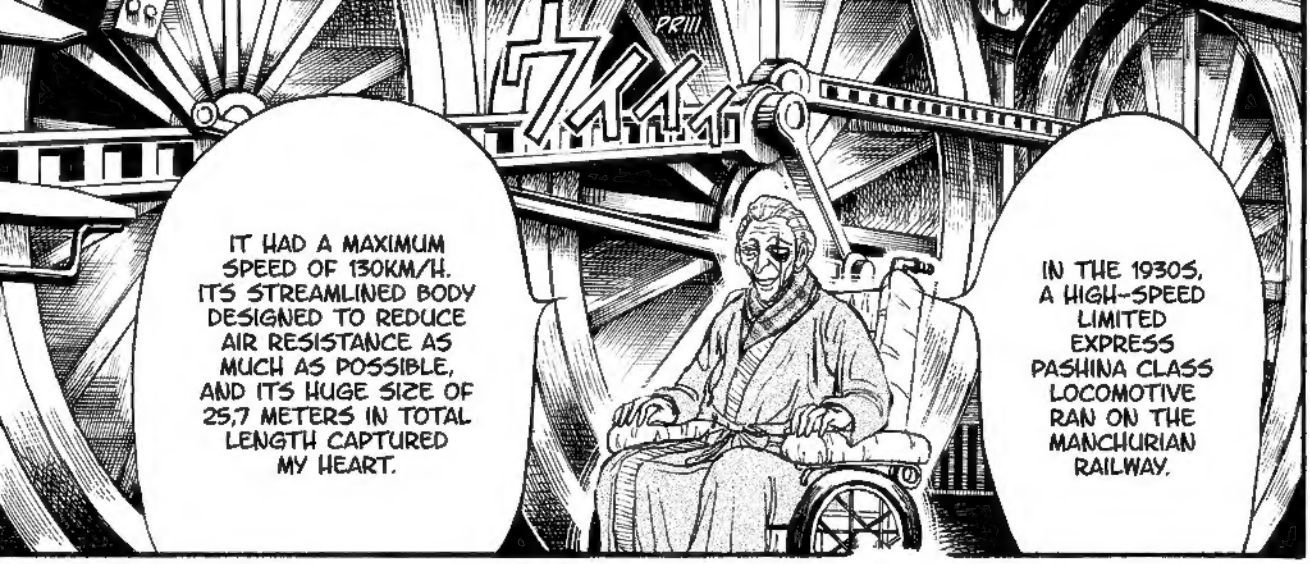
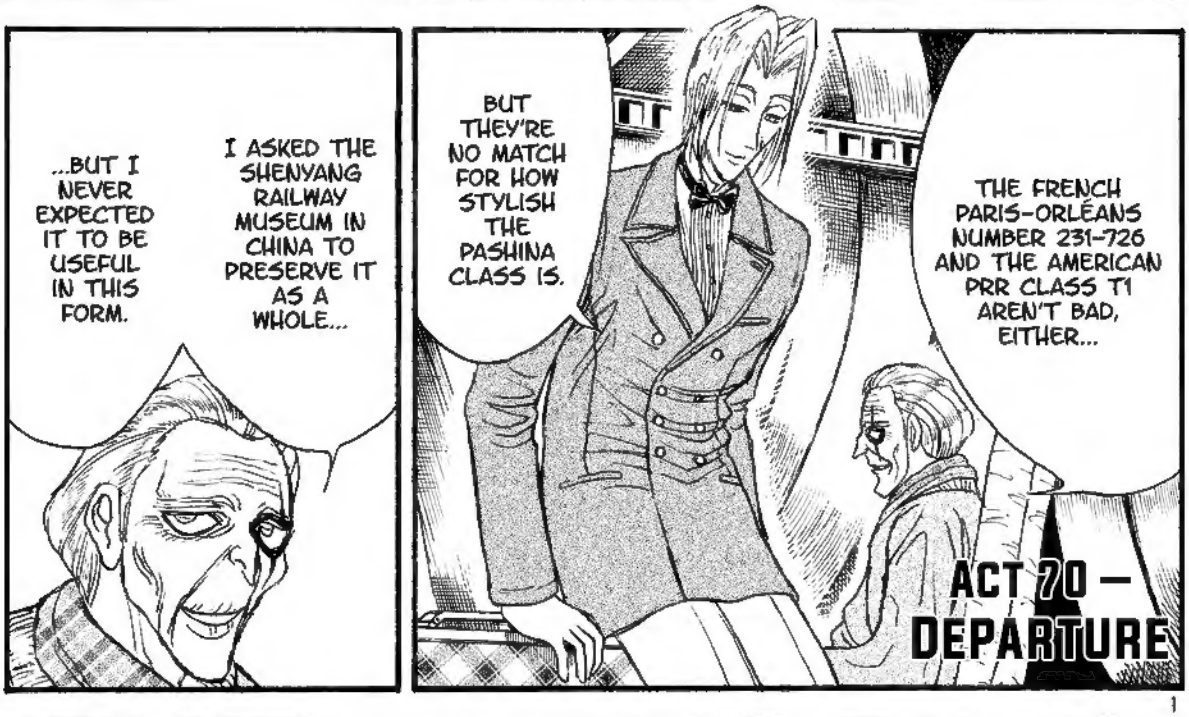
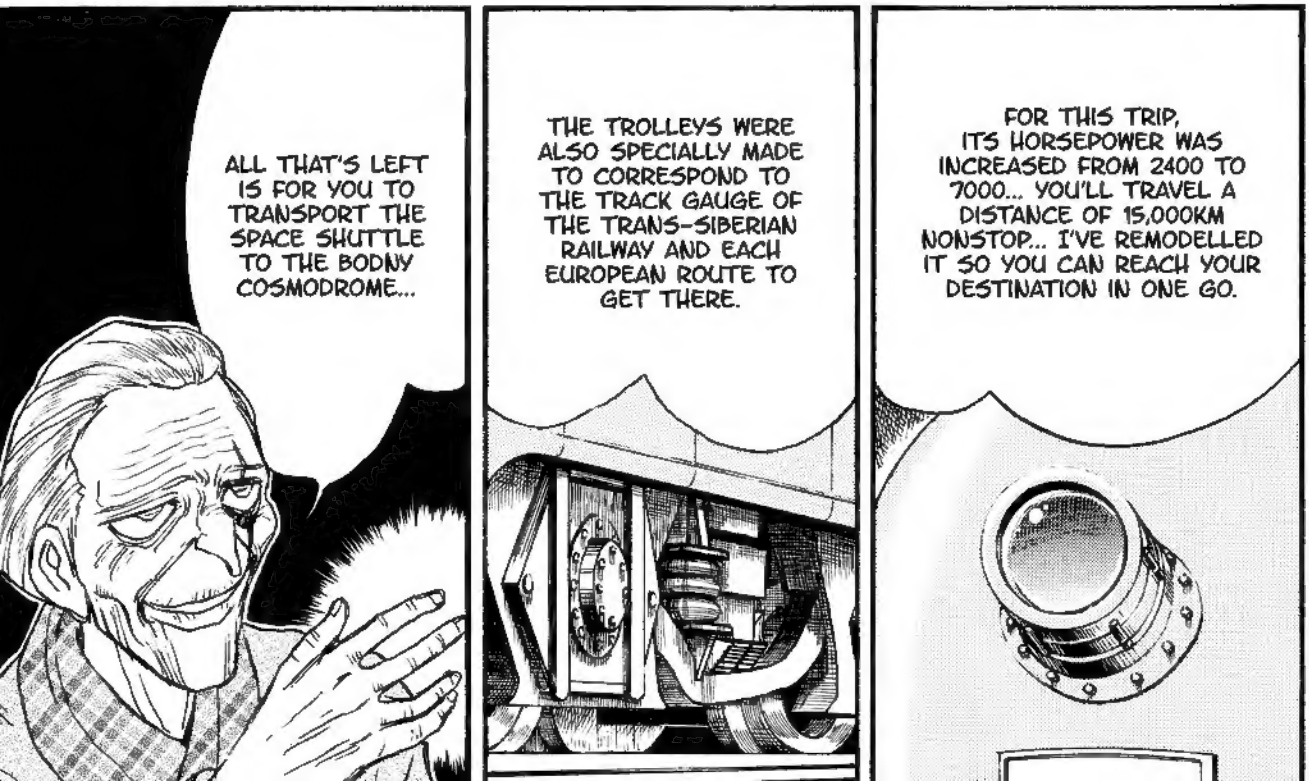

IN THE 1930S, A HIGH-SPEED LIMITED EXPRESS PASHINA CLASS LOCOMOTIVE RAN ON THE MANCHURIAN RAILWAY.
IT HAD A MAXIMUM SPEED OF 130KM/H. ITS STREAMLINED BODY DESIGNED TO REDUCE AIR RESISTANCE AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE, AND ITS HUGE SIZE OF 25,7 METERS IN TOTAL LENGTH CAPTURED MY HEART.


THE FRENCH PARIS-ORLÉANS NUMBER 231-726 AND THE AMERICAN PRR CLASS T1 AREN'T BAD, EITHER...
BUT THEY'RE NO MATCH FOR HOW STYLISH THE PASHINA CLASS IS.
I ASKED THE SHENYANG RAILWAY MUSEUM IN CHINA TO PRESERVE IT AS A WHOLE...
...BUT I NEVER EXPECTED IT TO BE USEFUL IN THIS FORM.

ACT 70 — DEPARTURE


FOR THIS TRIP, ITS HORSEPOWER WAS INCREASED FROM 2400 TO 7000... YOU'LL TRAVEL A DISTANCE OF 15,000KM NONSTOP... I'VE REMODELLED IT SO YOU CAN REACH YOUR DESTINATION IN ONE GO.
THE TROLLEYS WERE ALSO SPECIALLY MADE TO CORRESPOND TO THE TRACK GAUGE OF THE TRANS-SIBERIAN RAILWAY AND EACH EUROPEAN ROUTE TO GET THERE.
ALL THAT'S LEFT IS FOR YOU TO TRANSPORT THE SPACE SHUTTLE TO THE BODNY COSMODROME...

ZONAPHA SYNDROME WILL KILL EVERY LAST HUMAN BEING IN THE WORLD IN 11 DAYS...

AND WE SURVIVORS WILL IMMEDIATELY FALL PREY TO THE AUTOMATA.

WELL, NO ONE WILL BLAME YOU IF IT COMES TO THAT. THIS WAS ALWAYS A RECKLESS PLAN TO BEGIN WITH.

YEAH...

HUHUH. GET ON BOARD, WE'LL BE WAITING IN RUSSIA.

KUH... HUHUH.

YOU SURE ARE CALM ABOUT THIS.

PSSSHHH

70シュウウ

ACT 70 - DEPARTURE

...NAKAMACHI CIRCUS.

IT GOES WITHOUT SAYING, BUT THE MOMENT THAT YOU ARE KILLED AND THE SHUTTLE GETS DESTROYED, MANKIND'S FATE WILL BE SEALED.

YEAH! LEAVE IT TO US, FOU.

CLAP
パチ
CLAP
パチ
CLAP
パチ
CLAP
パチ
WE'RE COUNTING ON YOU, CIRCUS! WE'LL BE WAITING THERE!

OH, TOM! HELEN AND THE KIDS TOO.
TMP
どや
TMP
どや

NARUMI!

HEY, DON'T CRY. I WISH YOU ALL THE BEST, TOO.
NARUMI... TAKE CARE...
UHH

I SEE... THANK YOU.

NARUMI... WE CAME TO WISH YOU GOOD LUCK...
HERE, EVERYONE WROTE YOU LETTERS... YOU CAN READ THEM INSIDE THE TRAIN...

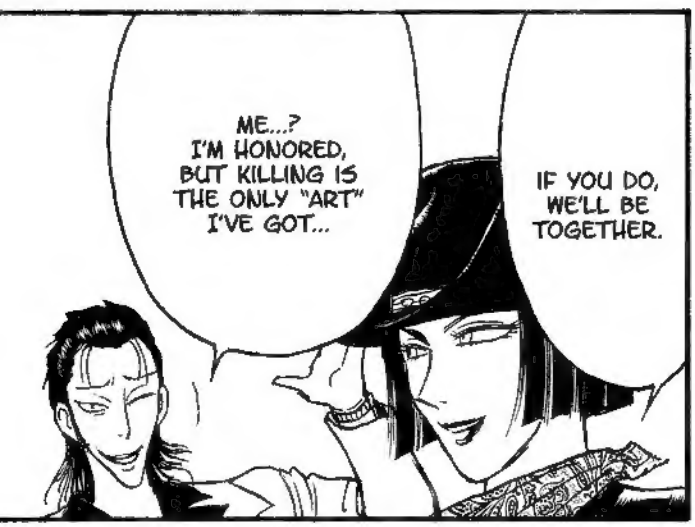
I'M SURE YOU'LL ALL GET TO PLAY OUTSIDE AGAIN!
WELL THEN, I'M OFF TO BEAT SOME BAD GUYS A LITTLE.

LOWE'S RED
HEH... IT'S NOT EXACTLY A BOUQUET OF FLOWERS, BUT... HERE.

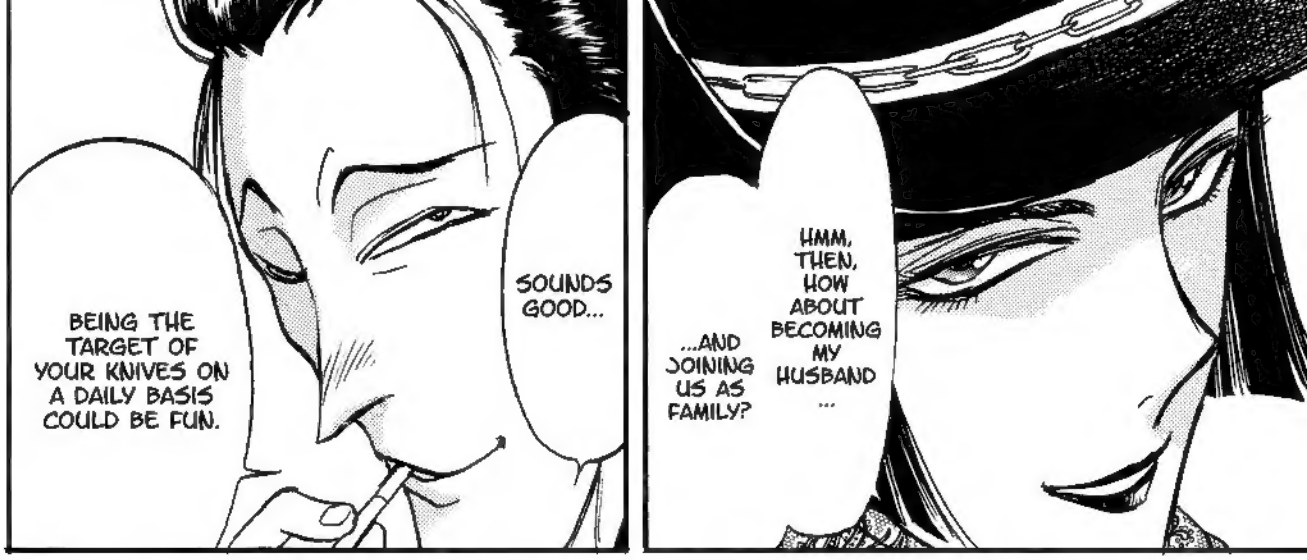
PAH
LOWE'S RED
CIGARETTES? OK, THAT'S PRETTY TASTEFUL.

OH, ASHIHANA. YOU CAME TO SEE ME OFF?
YO.
THAT'S FANCY, COMING FOR SOME-ONE AS DRY AS YOU.
LOWE'S RED

5


ME...? I'M HONORED, BUT KILLING IS THE ONLY "ART" I'VE GOT...
IF YOU DO, WE'LL BE TOGETHER.

...HEY, YOU SHOULD JOIN THE NAKAMACHI CIRCUS IF EVERYTHING WORKS OUT.
BEING WITH YOU HERE MADE ME GET BETTER.


BEING THE TARGET OF YOUR KNIVES ON A DAILY BASIS COULD BE FUN.
SOUNDS GOOD...
...AND JOINING US AS FAMILY?
HMM, THEN, HOW ABOUT BECOMING MY HUSBAND ...

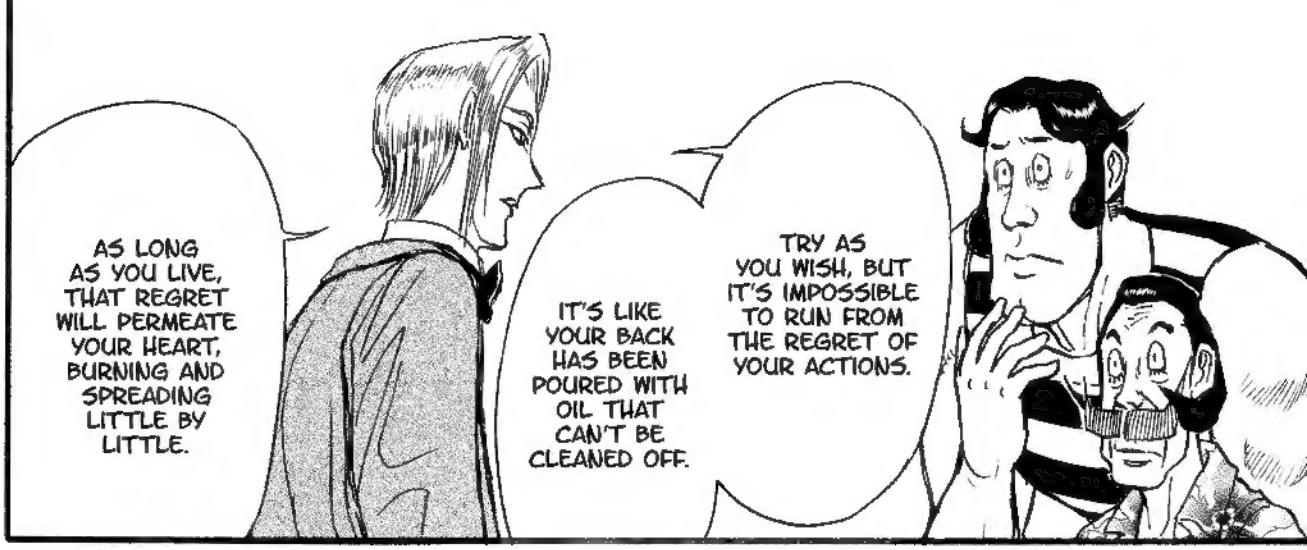
UHM... MR. GUY.
GOOD WORK OUT THERE...
LATER, THEN.

NO. WHAT OF IT?
YOU REALLY DIDN'T TELL ANYONE ABOUT... HOW WE BETRAYED EVERYONE AND LEAKED INFO TO THE DOLLS, DID YOU?

WELL... IT'S JUST...
WHAT IS IT?

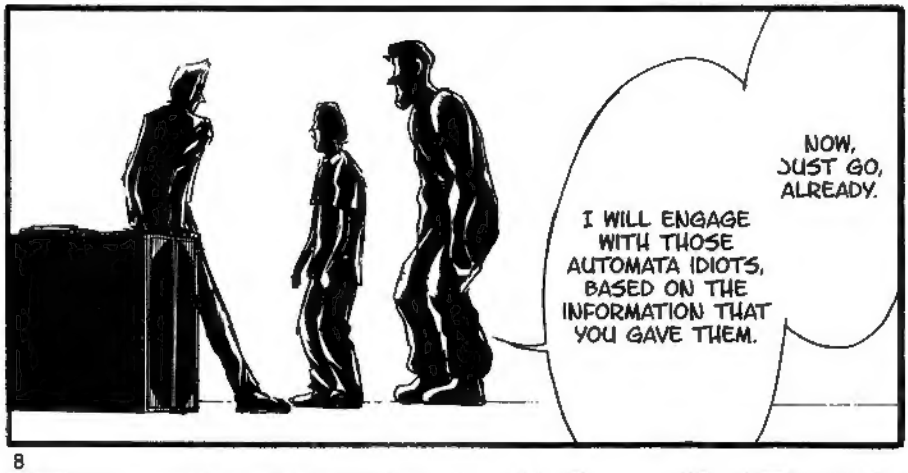
NAOTA, WAIT...
WE'VE BEEN ANXIOUS! WE KEPT WORRYING ABOUT WHEN YOU'D EXPOSE US! OR EVEN BLACKMAIL US!!
WHY?!
WELL, YOU SEE... WE ARE...

THAT BOY TOOK A JOB.
WE DON'T WANNA LISTEN TO...
HUH... A YOUNG BOY?
...THIS IS A STORY FROM WHEN A CERTAIN MAN WAS A YOUNG BOY.
SINCE THAT WOMAN WAS PREGNANT, HE DECIDED TO PUT IT INSIDE THE BODY OF THE BABY...
...AND STEAL AWAY BOTH THE STONE AND THE CHILD FROM THE MOTHER.
HOWEVER, IF THE STONE WAS REMOVED, IT WOULD DISAPPEAR ON THE JOURNEY BACK. SO, THE BOY WONDERED WHAT TO DO...
TO RETRIEVE A MAGICAL STONE WHICH DISAPPEARS UNLESS HIDDEN INSIDE A HUMAN BODY. HE HAD TO REMOVE IT FROM THE BODY OF A WOMAN.
THAT WOMAN GRANTED LOVE NOT ONLY TO HER CHILD... BUT TO THE BOY AS WELL...
BUT THAT'S JUST MADE-UP, RIGHT...?
H-HOW AWFUL...
IT'S BEEN OVER 90 YEARS... BUT I'VE NEVER FORGOTTEN.
D-DON'T TELL ME... THAT BOY WAS...


AS LONG AS YOU LIVE, THAT REGRET WILL PERMEATE YOUR HEART, BURNING AND SPREADING LITTLE BY LITTLE.
IT'S LIKE YOUR BACK HAS BEEN POURED WITH OIL THAT CAN'T BE CLEANED OFF.
TRY AS YOU WISH, BUT IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO RUN FROM THE REGRET OF YOUR ACTIONS.

...IS QUALIFIED TO DENOUNCE YOU AS TRAITORS?
DO YOU THINK SOME-ONE SUCH AS ME...

AND EVEN IF YOU'RE ALIVE, NOTHING WILL BRING YOU JOY.


I WILL ENGAGE WITH THOSE AUTOMATA IDIOTS, BASED ON THE INFORMATION THAT YOU GAVE THEM.
NOW, JUST GO, ALREADY.

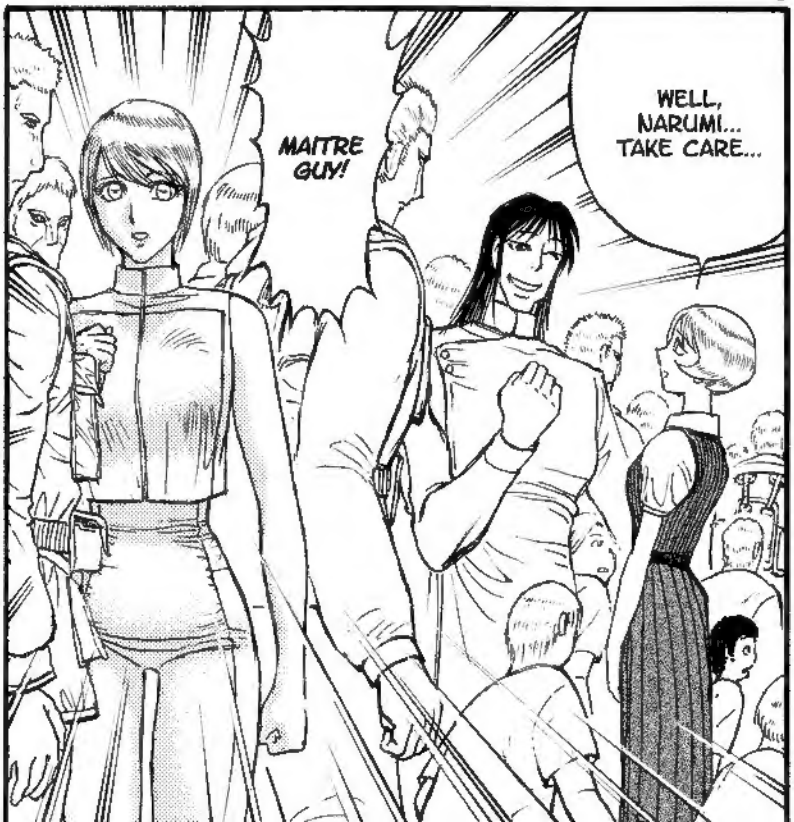
GUY, ARE YOU PLANNING TO DIE?!
T-THE AFTER-LIFE...

EVERYONE ELSE IS IN A HURRY. I THOUGHT ABOUT TAKING THEM WITH ME TO THE AFTERLIFE RIGHT HERE.
B-BY YOUR-SELF?!

BUT THIS IS OUR SECRET.
I'LL TAKE YOUR SECRET WITH ME.
THIS WAY, YOU CAN REST ASSURED, RIGHT?

MEN, LET'S GIVE A HELPING HAND!!
WE'LL BE LEAVING HERE.
LET'S GO, EVERYONE. IT'S TIME TO DEPART.

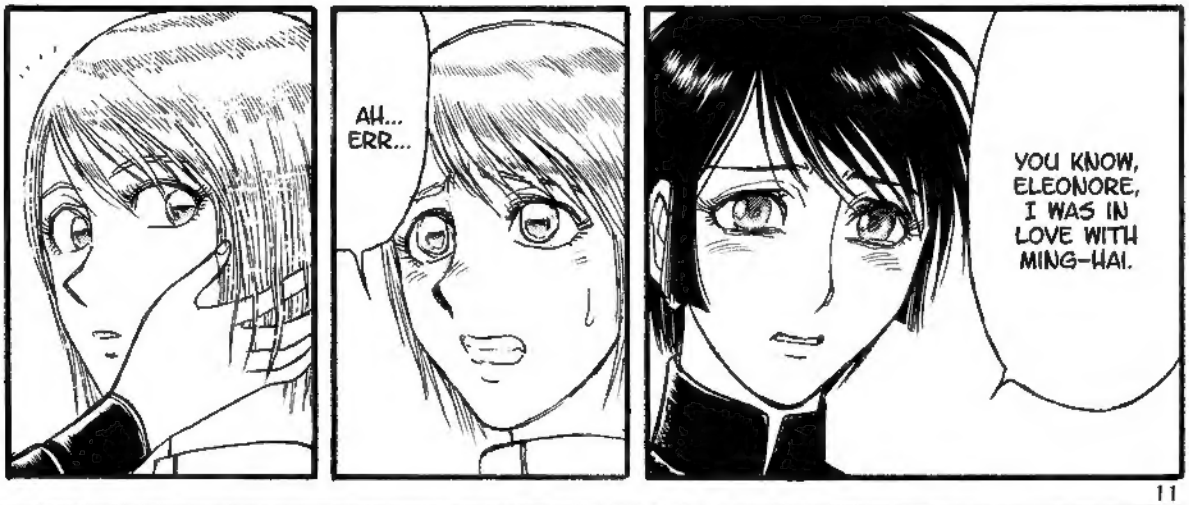
STEP


MAITRE GUY!
WELL, NARUMI... TAKE CARE...

FUH...
M-MISS MING-XIA...
SLIDE
PUNCH

THAT'S GOOD...
...
YOU DIDN'T FALL OVER.

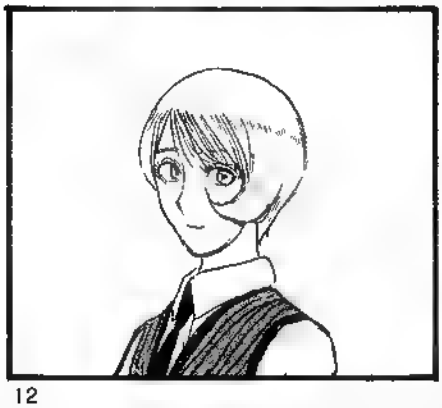
MISS MING-XIA...
YOU PROTECT MING-HAI.


AH... ERR...
YOU KNOW, ELEONORE, I WAS IN LOVE WITH MING-HAI.

IT REALLY IS...
...SUCH A BEAUTIFUL SILVER...

WHOOPS, SEE YA!
AH! THAT WOMAN JUST HIT SHIROGANE!
RUN

I LOSE.



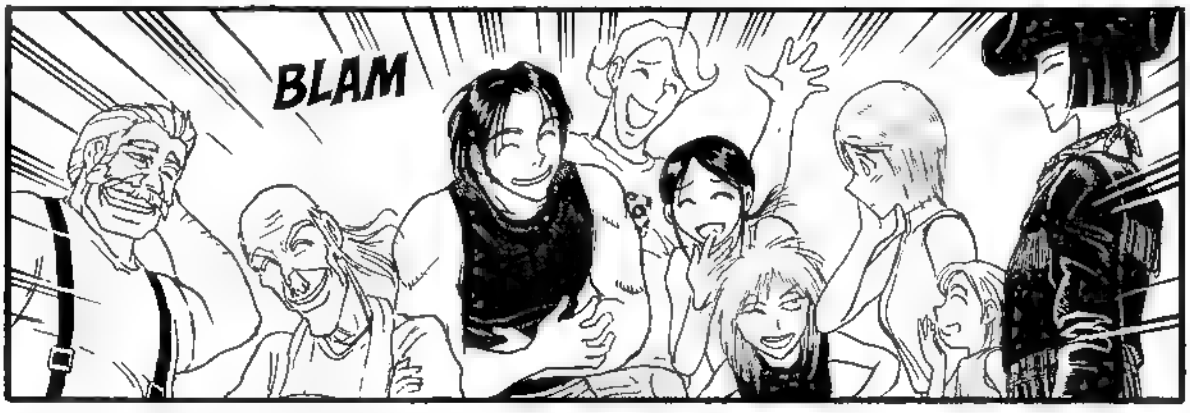
SORRY.

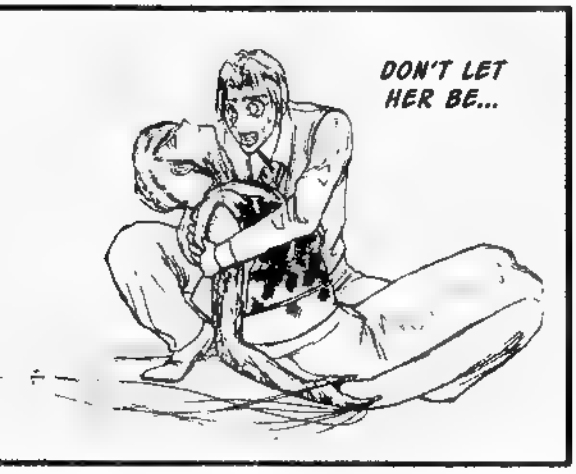
UH... THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

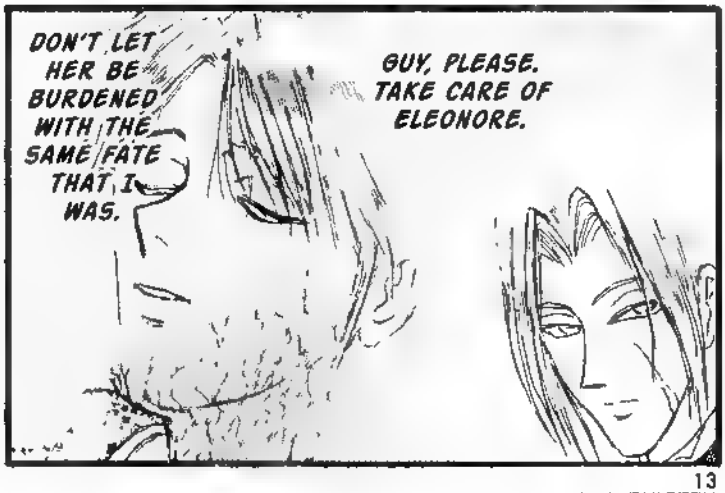
HEEH! I NEVER THOUGHT SOMEONE AS INTROVERTED AS YOU COULD RECONCILE WITH OTHERS!

I'M FINE, WE MADE UP...
ARE YOU GOOD?
I THOUGHT THAT LADY HATED SHIROGANE.

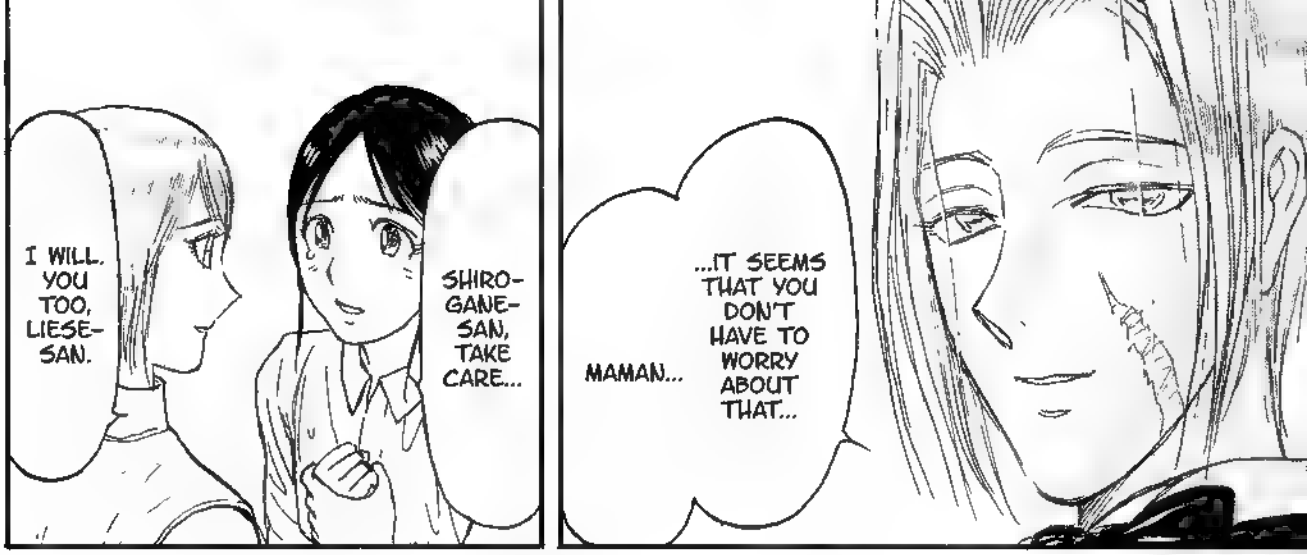
MY, EVEN SHIROGANE SAYS SO.
YES... IT'S RUDE.
HEY, POPS. YOU TWO ARE BEING RUDE.
YER RIGHT 'BOUT THAT!

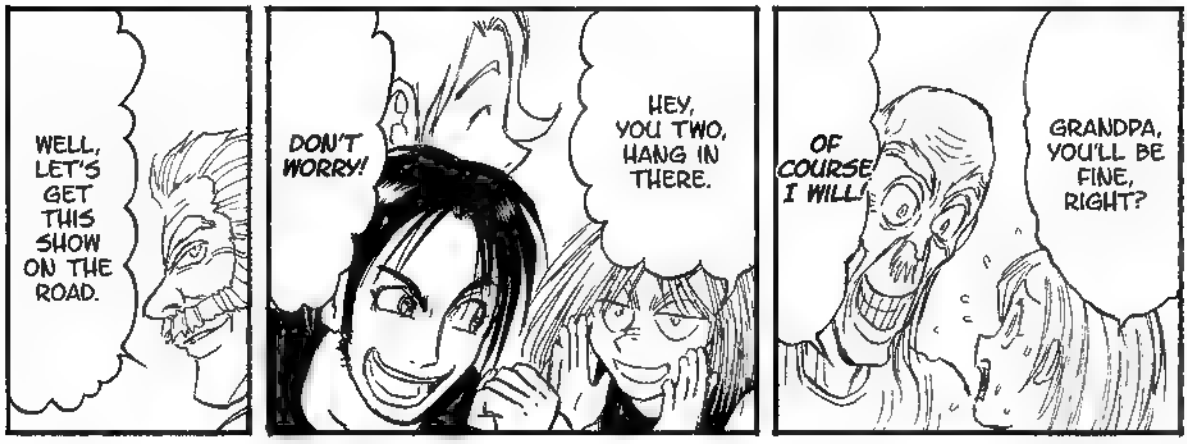

BLAM

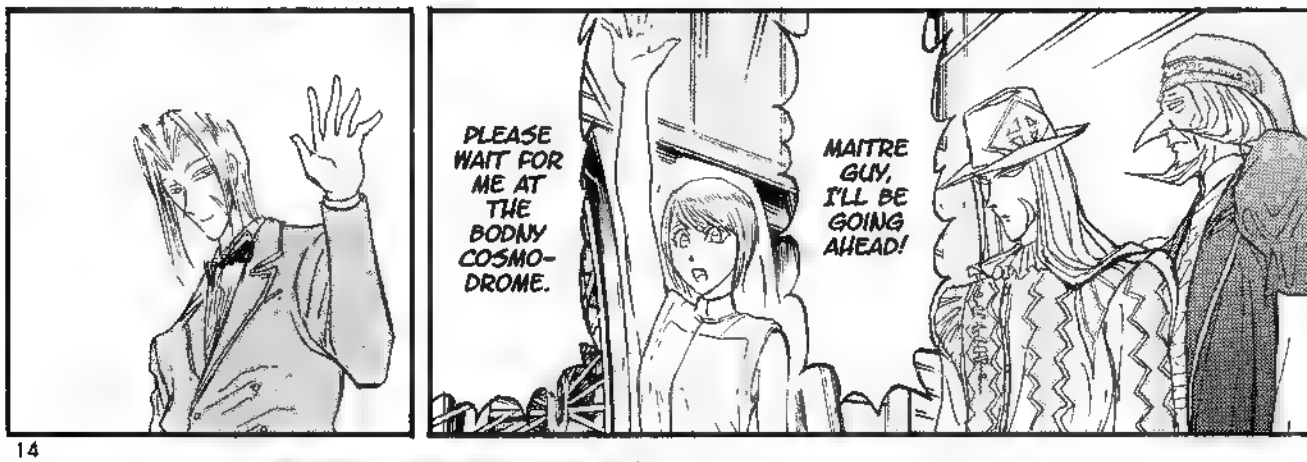

DON'T LET HER BE...


DON'T LET HER BE BURDENED WITH THE SAME FATE THAT I WAS.
GUY, PLEASE. TAKE CARE OF ELEONORE.

...AS YOU WERE.
...AS LONELY...

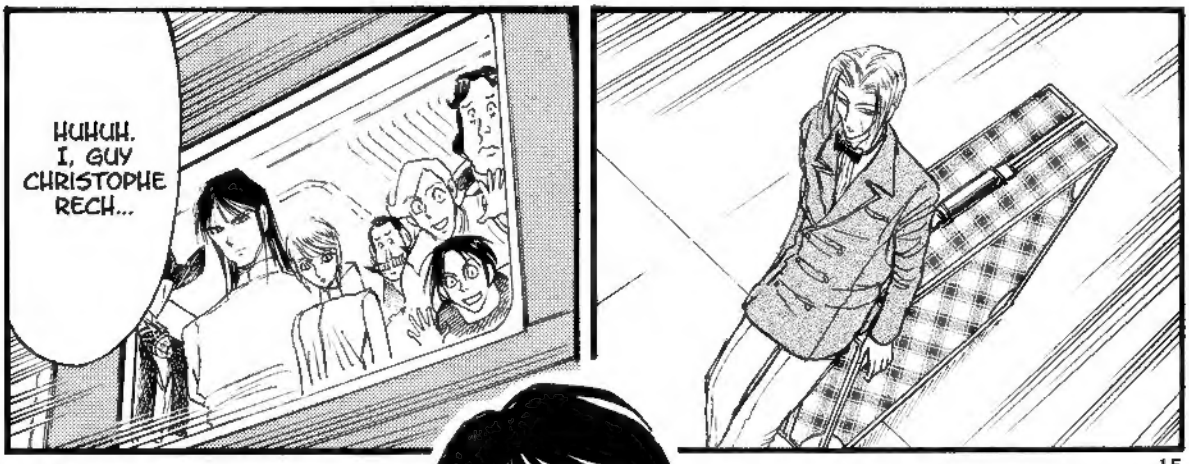

I WILL. YOU TOO, LIESE-SAN.
SHIRO-GANE-SAN, TAKE CARE...
MAMAN...
...IT SEEMS THAT YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT THAT...


WELL, LET'S GET THIS SHOW ON THE ROAD.
DON'T WORRY!
HEY, YOU TWO, HANG IN THERE.
OF COURSE I WILL!
GRANDPA, YOU'LL BE FINE, RIGHT?

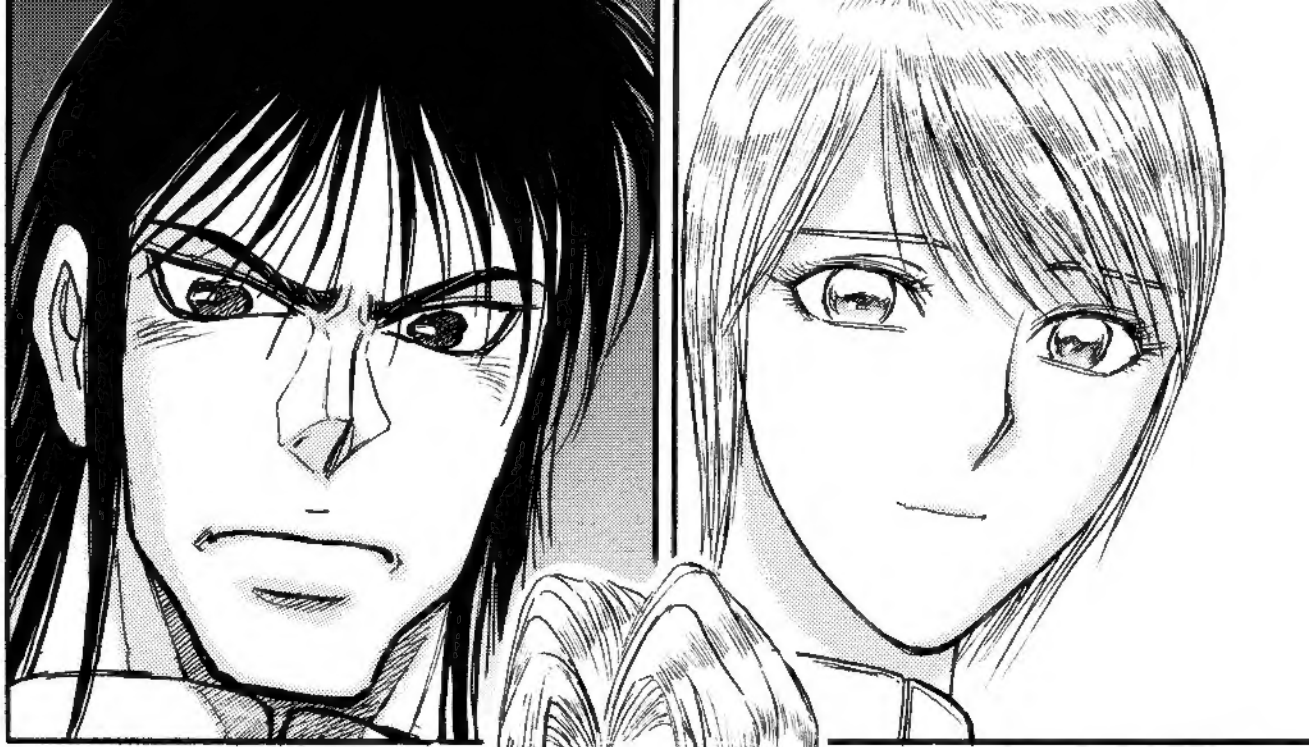

PLEASE WAIT FOR ME AT THE BODNY COSMO-DROME.
MAITRE GUY, I'LL BE GOING AHEAD!

"I HOLD THE WORLD AS A STAGE..."
ウィリアム
PSSSHHH
AS SHAKES-PEARE SAID...

GSHH
GSHH
GSHH
ガシュ
ガシュ
ガシュ
"ONE WHERE EVERY MAN MUST PLAY A PART," I GUESS.

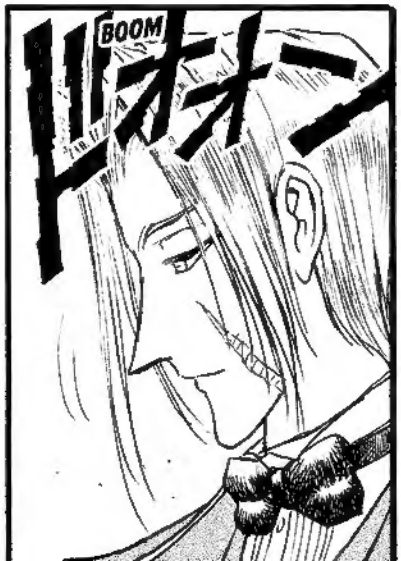

HUHUH. I, GUY CHRISTOPHE RECH...

...FEEL LIKE I FINALLY FIGURED OUT WHAT PART I MUST PLAY.



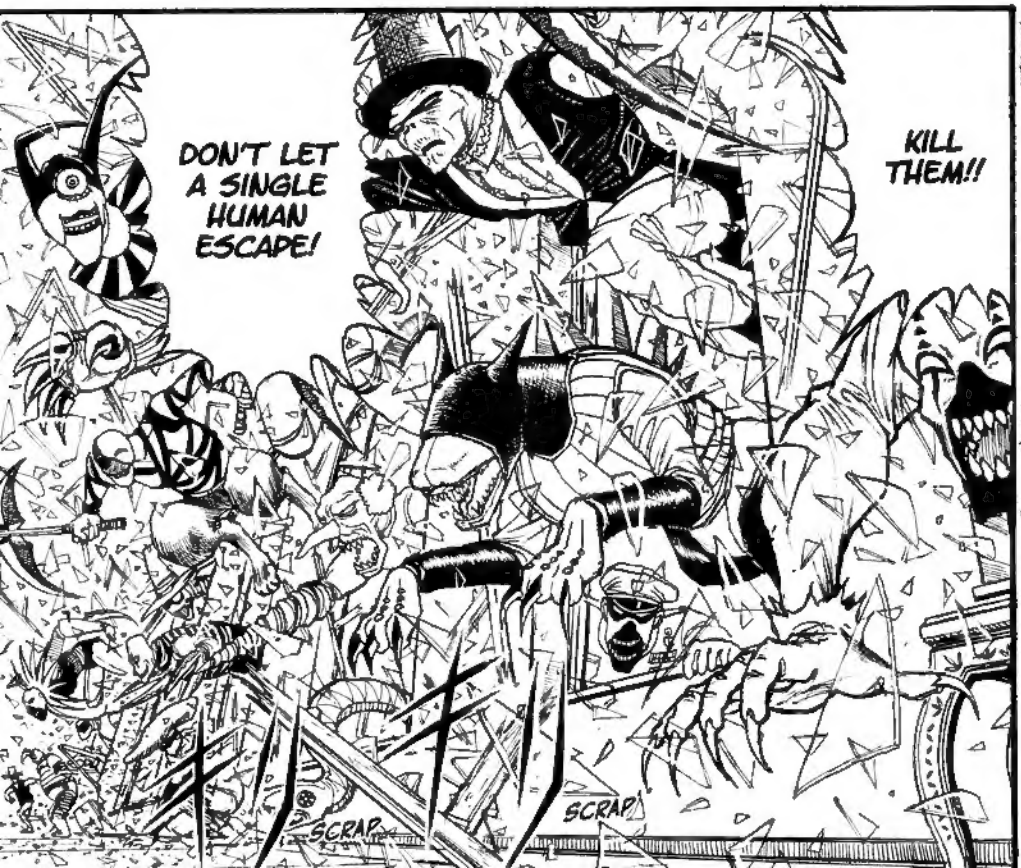
GACHUNK
ガタン
GACHUNK
ガタン

GRIP
キュ
WELL, NOW...
...GOOD TIMING.
ウウ


BOOM
ドオン

FLAP
...IS WITH MY ONE-MAN SHOW.
IT SEEMS THAT THE ONLY WAY TO CLOSE THIS SCENE...

RUSH


DON'T LET A SINGLE HUMAN ESCAPE!
KILL THEM!!
SCRAP
SCRAP

CRASH

THEY'RE GONE, CAPITAN. IT SEEMS THEY KNEW WE WERE COMING AND ESCAPED!
URGH, DAMNED HUMANS, WHERE ARE THEY?!

FOLLOW THE LOCOMOTIVE TRANSPORTING THE SHUTTLE IN THE UNDERGROUND TUNNEL AND DESTROY IT!
IN THAT CASE, HEAD TO THE UNDER-GROUND!

BLAM

BOOM
BOOM
CREAK CREAK